

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:802

ANSWERED ON:27.11.2006

TRANSPORTATION OF PDS FOODGRAINS

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Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has recently framed some new rules for Public Distribution System (PDS) goods carriers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the instructions issued to State Governments in this regard;
- (c) the extent to which the diversion of food articles meant for PDS to open markets would be checked by such a decision;
- (d) whether foodgrains loaded on the trucks in Food Corporation of India godowns by State agencies were diverted to open markets instead of reaching Fair Price Shops; and
- (e) if so, the details of such instances during the last one year, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a),(b),(c),(d)&(e): Yes, Sir. There have been several instances of foodgrains loaded on to trucks in FCI godowns by State Agencies being diverted to the open market. With a view to checking this menace, it has been decided that the following information should be displayed prominently on the wind shield as well as the rear end of the truck/vehicle carrying PDS articles from centralized godowns to the Fair Price Shop with immediate effect:

On PDS Ration Duty
Government of _____
Destination:
Commodity:
Agent's Name:

The above noted information may be displayed on a Board/Banner of about 3' x 2' size written/printed in black ink. This information should, as far as possible, be displayed in the local language. The trucks/vehicles which do not possess stickers/banners containing the above information will be returned without load by the FC/CWC w.e.f. 1.12.2006.

The PEO Report of the Planning Commission has highlighted that about 36% of the subsidized foodgrains is siphoned off the supply chain. Such measure will be helpful to track the diversion of foodgrain and to take further necessary steps to curb diversion/leakage.